

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
DOCTORAL CONVOCATION 2026

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Doctoral candidates  
Faculty of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences  
*Saint-Saëns: Symphony No. 3 “Organ”*

OPENING REMARKS

Carlos J. Alonso, Dean  
*Graduate School of Arts and Sciences*  
*Vice President for Graduate Education*  
*Morris A. and Alma Schapiro Professor in the Humanities*

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Eleanor Johnson  
*Professor of English and Comparative Literature*

PRESENTATION OF THE DOCTORAL CANDIDATES

FINAL REMARKS AND RECESSIONAL

Dean Carlos J. Alonso

MUSIC

Performance by the band Freelance



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*The following pages include graduates who received the doctoral degree in October 2025 and February 2026, as well as candidates for the May 2026 degree conferral.*

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## ANTHROPOLOGY

### Alexandria Hansen

*“Everything in ye Universe in thair own Nature”: An archaeology of natural history at Bartram’s Garden*

Advisor: Zoë Crossland

### Aamer Ibraheem

*Present interruptus: Reincarnation and sovereignty in the Golan Heights*

Advisor: Nadia Abu El-Haj

### Chloé Faux

*African Renaissance as primal scene: Fantasies of death and rebirth after apartheid*

Advisor: Rosalind Morris

### Benjamin Liberatore

*“Where late the sweet birds sang”: Child choristers, embodied voices, and contested values in the twenty-first-century English choral tradition*

Advisor: Lesley Sharp

### Stephanie Ratté

*Flooding forestalled: Environmental planning, infrastructure, and disrepair in Honolulu*

Advisor: Paige West

## ART HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

### John Beeson

*Culture war formations: Globalization, imagined communities, and art in the late twentieth century*

Advisor: Alexander Alberro

### Barthélemy Etchegoyen Glama

*How colonial archaeology transformed the Louvre: Antiquities, empire, and the encyclopedic museum in France (1830–1870)*

Advisors: Zainab Bahrani and Anne Higonnet

### Virginia Girard

*Geomyths in early Netherlandish landscapes, 1500–1600*

Advisor: David Freedberg

### Katherine Gobel

*Child’s play in Jan Steen’s comic paintings*

Advisor: David Freedberg

### Charlotte Gorant

*Coins, tree shrines, and the monastic institution: Bharhut and the artistic beginnings of the world’s first Buddhist monasteries (c. 200 BCE–100 CE)*

Advisor: Vidya Dehejia

### Whitney Kite

*The lay of the land: Armenian monasteries in their local landscapes*

Advisor: Holger Klein

### Adam Levine

*Flemish bust-format reliquaries of Cologne’s Holy Virgins and their patrons in the entourage of Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor*

Advisor: Holger Klein

### Eric Mazariegos

*The coastal ecologies of El Dorado: Aesthetics, materiality, and the unmaking of Tairona gold, c. 1000–1500 CE*

Advisor: Lisa Trever

### Caitlin Miller

*Leonardeschi in wartime: Giovanni Antonio Boltraffio, Giovanni Agostino da Lodi, and Andrea Solario after the French occupation of Milan, 1499–1510*

Advisor: Michael Cole

### Crystal Migwans

*Anaakanigewin: Weaving bulrush mats in the Algonquian Great Lakes, 1860–1960*

Advisor: Elizabeth Hutchinson

### Julián Sánchez González

*Lucerna extincta: Spiritual promiscuities in performance and installation art, 1970s–80s*

Advisor: Kellie Jones

### Natalie McCann

*Disciplinary writing, defiant speech: The politics of textual discourse in Northern Renaissance art*

Advisor: Diane Bodart

### Anne Ochmanek

*Conceptualism and the connexionist world: The art of Hannah Weiner, Eduardo Costa, and Christine Kozlov*

Advisor: Branden Joseph

### Hannah Pivo

*Data, form, and the future: Graphic methods in the United States, 1910s–30s*

Advisor: Zeynep Çelik Alexander

## ART HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY (CONTINUED)

### Kalyani Ramachandran

*The early Buddhist art of Phanigiri: Innovation and ideology in the riverine Deccan, c. first–fourth centuries CE*

Advisor: Vidya Dehejia

### Ashley Williams

*Unfree artists on the borders of US empire, 1850–1930*

Advisor: Elizabeth Hutchinson

## ASTRONOMY

### Christopher Carr

*Coupling and collisions of galaxies and their atmospheres*

Advisor: Greg Bryan

### Benjamin Cassese

*Differentiable models for high-precision time series observations of planetary systems*

Advisor: David Kipping

### Shifra Mandel

*A comprehensive study of the X-ray point sources in the Galactic Center and beyond*

Advisors: Charles Hailey and Lorenzo Sironi

### Karen Perez

*Deep searches for pulsars in our galaxy's field and center*

Advisor: Jules Halpern

## BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

### Aubrianna Decker

*Development of an optical pooled screen to investigate regulators of ferroptosis sensitivity*

Advisor: Jellert Gaubblomme

### Eavan Donovan

*Investigating the interplay of mitochondrial transport, neuronal form and neuronal function in vivo*

Advisor: Erin Barnhart

### Chinyere Ibikunle

*Comprehensive multimodal profiling of atherosclerosis reveals *Bhlhe40* as a novel regulator of vascular smooth muscle cell phenotypic modulation*

Advisor: Muredach Reilly

### Eliza Jaeger

*Investigating the evolution and function of telencephalic neural circuits in the salamander brain*

Advisor: Maria Tosches

### Matthew Johnson

*Roles of the MRX complex in the repair of replication-dependent double-strand breaks*

Advisor: Lorraine Symington

### Heather Woolley

*"Marvelous Economy": The Veil of Veronica and the reproduction of the faith in nineteenth-century France*

Advisor: Jonathan Crary

### Alina Sabyr

*Cosmology and astrophysics with non-Gaussian signals and spectral distortion*

Advisor: Zoltan Haiman

### Chengcheng Xin

*Study of the physics and detectability of compact black hole binaries using multi-messenger observations*

Advisor: Zoltan Haiman

### Daniel Yahalomi

*From wobbles to worlds: Developing a framework for detecting unseen planets and moons*

Advisor: David Kipping

### Yasmin Ramadan

*A tale of two nematodes: Evolution of neuronal fate specification*

Advisor: Oliver Hobert

### Lena Street

*Investigating the protein–protein interactions of RNA-binding proteins throughout the mRNA life cycle*

Advisor: Marko Jovanovic

### Anne van Vlimmeren

*Rewiring of cell signaling by pathogenic mutations in the tyrosine phosphatase SHP2*

Advisors: Marko Jovanovic and Neel Shah

### Matt Walker

*Co-option of transposable elements for RNA-guided DNA integration, rearrangement, and regulation*

Advisors: Laura Landweber and Samuel Sternberg

### Paige Wilson

*Nucleocytoskeletal connections in gene expression and chromatin accessibility*

Advisor: Gregg Gundersenon

## CHEMICAL PHYSICS

### Inki Lee

*Trapping light to direct energy flow in photoswitches and unlock few-molecule polaritons*

Advisor: Milan Delor

### Yiliu Li

*A time-domain view of moiré quantum matter*

Advisor: Xiaoyang Zhu

### Hai Mi Nguyen

*Exact and approximate numerical methods for simulating open quantum systems*

Advisor: David Reichman

### Nicholas Olsen

*Pristine gold-tape exfoliation of transition metal dichalcogenide monolayers*

Advisor: Xiaoyang Zhu

### Morgan Thinel

*Quantum localization in metals*

Advisors: Xiaoyang Zhu and Abhay Pasupathy

## CHEMISTRY

### Jordan Cox

*Chemical control of optoelectronic properties in van der Waals materials*

Advisor: Xavier Roy

### Joleen Csuka

*Uncovering metabolic signatures using lipidomics*

Advisor: Brent Stockwell

### Xin Gao

*Stimulated Raman scattering microscopy: Theory and applications in nano imaging*

Advisor: Wei Min

### Samantha Goldschmid

*Metallaphotoredox catalysis from red to blue: New methods in C–N and C–C cross-coupling*

Advisor: Tomislav Rovis

### Joseph Hammer

*Machine learning and Bayesian modeling for quantitative biological imaging: From single-molecule localization microscopy to mass spectrometry imaging*

Advisor: Laura Kaufman

### Christopher Hwu

*Advancing the monoaminergic neurotransmission investigative toolbox: Integrating the developments of fluorescent optical tracers and inhibitors*

Advisor: Dalibor Sames

### Jakhangirkhodja Tulyagankhodjaev

*Imaging multi-particle correlations with time-resolved nonlinear microscopy*

Advisor: Milan Delor

### Ethan Vo

*Correlated electronic structure theory for interfacial chemistry and excited states of extended systems*

Advisor: Timothy Berkelbach

### Hung Vuong

*Applications of phaseless auxiliary-field quantum Monte Carlo in transition metal-containing systems*

Advisor: Richard Friesner

### Yujing Wei

*Accurate and scalable electronic structure methods and machine learning potentials for molecules and materials simulation*

Advisor: Richard Friesner

### Ziyuan Jiang

*Characterizing mechanisms of regulation and pathogenicity in SHP2 using deep mutational scanning*

Advisor: Neel Shah

### Iris Mercer

*Understanding collagen I self-assembly for control of gel structure and mechanical properties*

Advisor: Laura Kaufman

### Justin Powers

*Functional dissection of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) progression through in vivo, genome-wide CRISPR screening and multi-omic analysis of Eif4G2-dependent translational programs*

Advisors: Christine Iok In Chio and Brent Stockwell

### Naixin Qian

*Advancing chemical specificity in Raman microscopy: From method development to applications*

Advisor: Wei Min

### Jiaming Qi

*Engineering living yeast as a low-cost and scalable oral vaccine platform*

Advisor: Virginia Cornish

### Haowen Su

*Dielectric control of exciton transport and correlated states in two-dimensional materials*

Advisor: Milan Delor

## CHEMISTRY (CONTINUED)

### Shixuan Wei

*Visible-light-activated photopolymerization and dynamic covalent chemistry for adaptive materials*

Advisor: Luis Campos

### Ding Xu

*Spatiotemporal imaging of exciton-polariton transport and nonlinear optics in van der Waals semiconductors under strong light-matter coupling*

Advisor: Milan Delor

### Yilun Yang

*Design and synthesis of quipazine analogs for programmable control of psychedelic effects*

Advisor: Dalibor Sames

### Jessica Yu

*Doping two-dimensional layered materials*

Advisor: Xavier Roy

### Bereket Zekarias

*Surface engineering in quantum dots: From ligand binding affinity to photocatalysis*

Advisor: Jonathan Owen

## CLASSICAL STUDIES

### Giulia Bertoni

*Cloth-gestures on Roman sarcophagi*

Advisor: Francesco de Angelis

### Abigail Breuker

*Norms of dialectic: Plato's dialectical requirement in the Meno and beyond*

Advisor: Katja Vogt

### Luke Lea

*Nature and justice in Plato's Republic and Antiphon's*

*On Truth*

Advisor: Katja Vogt

## CLASSICS

### Olivier Bordeleau-Lavoie

*Towards a reinterpretation of the Epistola Alexandri ad Aristotelem*

Advisor: Carmela Franklin

### Nicholas Koudounis

*Athens' barbaroi: Case studies in non-Greek integration in classical Athens (500–300 BCE)*

Advisor: John Ma

### Geoffrey Harmsworth

*Celebrity and urban politics in the imperial Greek polis*

Advisor: John Ma

### Valeria Spaccante

*Bodies of knowledge: Norm and resistance in the Greek novel*

Advisor: Nancy Worman

### Elizabeth McLeod Heintges

*Vergil's Sicily: Reflections of crisis and reintegration in the late Republican civil wars*

Advisor: Katharina Volk

### Marissa Swan

*Body language: Lactantius and the corporeal*

Advisor: Gareth Williams

## EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

### Lloyd Anderson

*Reconstructing atmospheric carbon dioxide and surface ocean carbon chemistry over the last twenty-eight million years using cross-calibrations of boron isotopes in fossil planktonic foraminifera*

Advisor: Bärbel Hönisch

### Samuel Bartusek

*Extreme heat in a warming world: Causes, changes, and air quality connections*

Advisors: Yutian Wu and Mingfang Ting

### Eva Arroyo

*The impacts of within-species trait variation on community ecology: Empirical studies across Puerto Rico and theoretical modeling*

Advisors: María Uriarte and Duncan Menge

### Jasper Baur

*Towards operational UAS-based landmine detection: Vegetation, validation, and geophysical application*

Advisor: Frank Nitsche

## EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (CONTINUED)

### Laurel DiSera

*Methodologies for identifying and understanding cross-timescale interference and the exposure, use, and trust of climate information in Colombia*  
Advisor: Ángel Muñoz

### Maegan DeLessio

*Brown carbon in an Earth system model: A scheme to study biomass burning aerosols*  
Advisors: Susanne Bauer and Konstantinos Tsigaridis

### Tess Jacobson

*Dynamical climate drivers of fire in western North America and beyond*  
Advisor: Richard Seager

### Claire Jasper

*The Evolution of the Antarctic ice sheet over the Plio-Pleistocene inferred from Scotia Sea sediments*  
Advisor: Maureen Raymo

### Caroline Juang

*Drivers of enhanced wildfire activity across the western United States since the 1980s*  
Advisor: Park Williams

## EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

### Niccole Bertozzi

*Lu Ban's ruler and Shōtoku's saw: An intellectual history of carpentry in Premodern Japan*  
Advisors: David Lurie and Gregory Pflugfelder

### David Borgonjon

*Red Nanyang: Chinese-language literature of Indonesia, 1945–1965*  
Advisor: Lydia Liu

### Nolan Bensen

*The tripod of Ming foreign policy: Land borders, state language training, and maritime borders in the long shadow of the Mongol Empire*  
Advisor: Robert Hymes

### Cameron Foltz

*Constructing Qinghai: Pastoralist settlement, monastic territorialization, and state incorporation (1850–1935)*  
Advisor: Gray Tuttle

### Guoying Gong

*Writing home and empire from the margins: Longing and belonging in Du Fu's (712–770) poetry*  
Advisor: Wei Shang

### Palden Gyal

*Shifting terrains of authority: Religio-political governance in the Sino–Tibetan borderlands, 1650–1911*  
Advisor: Gray Tuttle

### Miriam Nielsen

*Interactions between soil moisture and precipitation in a changing world*  
Advisors: Benjamin Cook and Katherine Marvel

### Maria Rosabelle Ong

*Untapping a new climate archive: Colpophyllia natans climate reconstructions in the tropical Atlantic*  
Advisor: Nathalie Emami

### Garima Raheja

*Measuring everything, everywhere, all at once: Developing low-cost sensors, tools, and algorithms for measuring pollution*  
Advisor: Daniel Westervelt

### Sarah Smith

*Understanding regional aerosol variability and trends through satellite constraints on source region drivers and arctic processes*  
Advisors: Mingfang Ting and Yutian Wu

### Maheenuz Zaman

*Experimental constraints on frictional and poroviscous processes on icy moons*  
Advisor: Christine McCarthy

### Tenggeer Hao

*The mind medium: A yin-yang philosophy of media*  
Advisor: Ying Qian

### Tianyuan Huang

*Making way for uncertainty: Gender, power, and the epistemology of illness in Japan, 1585–1953*  
Advisor: Gregory Pflugfelder

### Stella Kim

*Embodied belongings: Gender, reproduction, and motherhood in Late Chosŏn Korea*  
Advisor: Jungwon Kim

### Hana Lethen

*Choreographies of eccentricity: Madness, dance, and gender in Medieval Noh theater*  
Advisor: Haruo Shirane

### Constantine Lignos

*Dancing Tantra: Body, text, and performance in Tibetan Tantric Buddhism*  
Advisor: Gray Tuttle

### Maho Miyazaki

*Aged to perfection: Performing old age and the elderly actor in Noh theater*  
Advisor: Haruo Shirane

## EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES (CONTINUED)

### Deanna Nardy

*Countervisions of postwar Japan*

Advisor: Takuya Tsunoda

### Komei Sakai

*Wrath of the rising sun: The gods of war and military rituals in premodern Japan*

Advisor: D. Max Moerman

### Liu Xuan

*Strategizing kinship: Elites, lineage practices, and the political changes in early China (c. 1045–453 BCE)*

Advisor: Feng Li

## ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

### Rachel Cohen

*The genetics of recognition: Parasitism, reproduction, and genome evolution in flowering plants*

Advisor: Deren Eaton

### Amanda Johnston

*Hanging on in a forest fragment: The long- and short-term effects of habitat loss on guenon monkeys with a focus on golden monkeys (*Cercopithecus mitis kandti*) in Rwanda*

Advisor: Marina Cords

### Marie Lilly

*Ticks in the city: Socio-ecological dynamics of tick-borne disease across an urbanization gradient*

Advisor: Maria Diuk-Wasser

### Ivan Monagan

*Extinction on islands: Integrating taxonomic, functional, and phylogenetic dimensions of vulnerability in fragmented landscapes*

Advisors: Shahid Naeem and Christopher Raxworthy

### Jared Meek

*Phylogeography, diversification, and conservation of mountain plant communities*

Advisor: Deren Eaton

### Laura Plimpton

*Heterogeneity across scales: Linking movement, contact, and landscape to canine distemper virus transmission in New York City raccoons*

Advisor: Maria Diuk-Wasser

## ECONOMICS

### Nadia Ali

*Essays on markets and firms in Tunisia*

Advisors: Suresh Naidu and Eric Verhoogen

### Nikhil Basavappa

*Essays in development economics*

Advisor: Jack Willis

### Gevorg Beknazar-Yuzbashev

*Essays on economics of media*

Advisor: Andrea Prat

### Giovanni Bonfanti

*Essays in European integration*

Advisors: Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé and Jesse Schreger

### Luigi Beneduci Caloi

*Essays in transfer systems and development*

Advisor: Eric Verhoogen

### Laura Caron

*Essays on disability, inequality, and causal inference in education and labor economics*

Advisors: Alessandra Casella and Simon Lee

### Andrea Ciccarone

*Essays on political and organizational economics*

Advisor: Andrea Prat

### Daniel Di Martino

*Immigration policy as industrial policy: Evidence from post-legalization occupational upgrading, heterogeneous fiscal impact, and ethnic innovation*

Advisor: Eric Verhoogen

### Sai Krishna Kamepalli

*Essays in macroeconomics of microeconomic frictions*

Advisors: Hassan Afrouzi and Christian Moser

### Hyoseok Kim

*Essays on robust time series estimation and forecasting under outliers and fat tails*

Advisors: Jushan Bai and Serena Ng

### Tushar Kundu

*Essays on the development and measurement of human capital*

Advisor: Eric Verhoogen

### Tianhao Liu

*Three essays on information: Learning, fragility, and privacy*

Advisor: Navin Kartik

### Ricardo Pommer Muñoz

*Essays on information and climate economics*

Advisors: Mark Dean and Jack Willis

## ECONOMICS (*CONTINUED*)

### **Kate Musen**

*Essays on the economics of vulnerable children*

Advisor: Sandra Black

### **William Nober**

*Essays in public economics*

Advisor: Jonah Rockoff

### **Yifan Shi**

*Essays in financial economics: Determinants of corporate financial policy*

Advisor: Wojciech Kopczuk

### **Shuhua Si**

*Essays in behavioral economic theory*

Advisors: Alessandra Casella and Michael Woodford

### **Natalie Yang**

*Essays in the economics of transportation*

Advisor: Donald Davis

### **Hanyao Zhang**

*Essays on decisions under risk*

Advisor: Mark Dean

### **Yangfan Zhou**

*Information and incentives under uncertainty*

Advisors: Marial Doval and Navin Kartik

## ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

### **Sumati Dwivedi**

*Expert witness: Knowledge, disciplinarity, and professionalism in nineteenth-century literature and law*

Advisor: Bruce Robbins

### **Kaagni Harekal**

*Intimate contracts: Genre and family planning in postcolonial India*

Advisor: Gauri Viswanathan

### **Emma Hitchcock**

*Dead stones and dumb trees: Old English logics of dispossession*

Advisor: Patricia Dailey

### **Levi Hord**

*Tracing the nonbinary present: Self-definition and the genre of contemporary gender claims*

Advisor: Jack Halberstam

### **Shannon Hubbard**

*Disciplining development: US universities and humanist worldmaking in the Black Atlantic*

Advisor: Gauri Viswanathan

### **Benjamin Hulett**

*Memory traces: Indigenous thought in early American natural histories*

Advisors: Joseph Albernaz and Jenny Davidson

### **Aya Labanieh**

*Postcolonial paranoia: Conspiracies and their afterlives in Middle Eastern literature and media*

Advisors: Joseph R. Slaughter and Bruce Robbins

### **Richard Bruce Conor MacVarish**

*Scenes of infinite decay: Description, ecology, and the Victorian weird*

Advisor: James Adams

### **Christine Prevas**

*Architectures of gender and the American haunted house*

Advisor: Jack Halberstam

### **Joseph Romano**

*"Steryngs of the Will": Issues of volution in late fourteenth-century English literature*

Advisor: Eleanor Johnson

### **Ayesha Verma**

*Performing stage corpses in early modern English drama*

Advisor: Julie Peters

## FRENCH

### **Zachary Desjardins-Mooney**

*The child and the norm: Psychoanalysis, psychiatry, and maladapted youth in postwar France*

Advisor: Camille Robcis

### **Jeanne Devautour Choi**

*Writing in décalage: Fractured memory and generational distance in diasporic voices from Argentina and Viet Nam*

Advisor: Souleymane Diagne

### **Soraya Limare**

*Transnational afterlives of the Haitian revolution: Between history and fiction*

Advisor: Madeleine Dobie

## GERMANIC LANGUAGES

### **Sandra Chiritescu**

*Bobes, mames, and daughters: Uncovering twentieth- and twenty-first-century American Jewish and American Yiddish feminist genealogies*

Advisor: Jeremy Dauber

### **Alice Gorton**

*Earth hunger: Agriculture, settler colonialism, and the rise of the global grain trade, 1846–1914*

Advisor: Susan Pedersen

### **Skye Savage**

*The performativity of diagnosis: Clinical writing between medicine and literature in postwar Germany*

Advisor: Claudia Breger

## HISTORY

### **Yasemin Akçagüner**

*Şanizade Ataullah Efendi and the making of an Ottoman medical canon (1789–1826)*

Advisor: A. Tunç Şen

### **Sahar Bostock**

*Desert developmentalism: Infrastructure, agriculture, and the colonization of Southern Palestine, 1850–1950*

Advisors: Marwa Elshakry and Rashid Khalidi

### **Evan Brown**

*Organizing baseball: Reworking the transnational circuit, 1946–1965*

Advisor: Frank Guridy

### **Ella Coon**

*Control data: American power and the global assembly line, 1957–1992*

Advisor: Adam Tooze

### **Katherine Manansala**

*Authoring the nation: Revolutions in literary property and the invention of France*

Advisor: Emmanuelle Saada

### **Laetitia Ndiaye**

*Writing and seeing the world: Language, movement, and identity in Francophone literature and cinema*

Advisor: Souleymane Diagne

### **Didi Tal**

*Papers and trails: Holocaust refugees and US immigration control*

Advisor: Claudia Breger

### **Laura Tedford**

*Illusion beyond the fourth wall: Ludwig Tieck in the folds of performance studies*

Advisor: Claudia Breger

### **Luz Colpa**

*Looking for love: Marriage and “out-marriage” between France and West Africa, 1939–1985*

Advisor: Emmanuelle Saada

### **Yakov Ellenbogen**

*Disability and identity in Medieval Ashkenaz, 1150–1500*

Advisor: Elisheva Carlebach

### **Mariana Katz**

*The labor of the state: Unfree workers and the making of Republican Paraguay (1811–1864)*

Advisor: Nara Milanich

### **Amanda Martin**

*Civil rights struggles over access to the outdoors in the United States*

Advisors: Frank Guridy and Karl Jacoby

## HISTORY (CONTINUED)

### Whitney McIntosh

*American libertarianism: A philosophy, a movement, a sensibility, 1960–1993*

Advisors: Casey Blake and Kimberly Phillips-Fein

### Barnaby Raine

*Immanent freedom: Visions of ending capitalism in the heart of empire*

Advisor: Adam Tooze

### William Sadleir

*Mobilizing empire: Labor, infrastructure, and power on the Georgian Military Highway*

Advisor: Catherine Evtuhov

## ITALIAN

### Laura DiNardo

*Dante, philosopher of language: Performing pragmatics and semantics in the Commedia*

Advisor: Teodolinda Barolini

### Louis Moffa

*Dante, poet of the stars*

Advisor: Teodolinda Barolini

## LATIN AMERICAN AND IBERIAN CULTURES

### María Agustina Battezzati

*Neoliberalismo global: Arte, tiempo y feminismos en Argentina, 1990s–2000s*

Advisor: Graciela Montaldo

### Tulio Bucchioni

*The reinvention of the sexual: Radical sexual cultures, politics, and queer Marxism in Cold War Brazil and Cuba*

Advisor: Bruno Bosteels

### Tamara Hache

*Infraestructuras de guerra: Espacios, imágenes y grafías en Argentina, Uruguay y Brasil (1850–1895)*

Advisor: Ronald Briggs

## MATHEMATICS

### Anna Abasheva

*Shafarevich–Tate twists of holomorphic Lagrangian fibrations*

Advisor: Giulia Saccà

### Kevin Chang

*Hurwitz spaces, Nichols algebras, and Igusa zeta functions*

Advisor: William Sawin

### Nicholas Shepard

*Embodied politics: A social movement history of the public bathroom in the modern United States*

Advisor: George Chauncey

### Julia Tomasson

*Polygons and polyphony: Traditions of Arabic mathematics across the post-classical world*

Advisor: Matthew Jones

### Conor Wilkinson

*Plants, insects, people, and power: An ecological history of Africa's Great Lakes region*

Advisor: Rhiannon Stephens

### Giulia Ricca

*The insipid woman: Speech, love, beauty in*

*I promessi sposi*

Advisor: Elizabeth Leake

### Javiera Irribarren Ortiz

*Descolonizar la imaginación: Alter-nativas en cómics especulativos de Brasil y Chile*

Advisors: Orlando Bentancor and Bruno Bosteels

### Manuela Luengas Solano

*Archivos del río: Prácticas e imaginarios fluviales en la cultura latinoamericana*

Advisor: Graciela Montaldo

### Eduardo Andrés Vergara Torres

*Geometrías radicales: Experimentación formal y militancia política en el cine, la música y la arquitectura de los largos años sesenta en América Latina*

Advisor: Bruno Bosteels

### Ivan Diklich-Zelich

*The miracle of flatness in algebraic geometry*

Advisor: Aise Johan de Jong

### Georgy Gaitsgori

*Explicitly solvable problems in optimal stopping, stochastic control, and sequential inference*

Advisor: Ioannis Karatzas

## MATHEMATICS (CONTINUED)

### Matthew Hase-Liu

*Geometry of the moduli space of curves on a hypersurface via the circle method*

Advisor: William Sawin

### Nikita Klemiyatin

*On the singularities of the Type IIA flow, the Type IIB flow, and the inverse Monge–Ampère flow*

Advisor: Duong Phong

### Shuang Liang

*Fully nonlinear partial differential equations on Hermitian manifolds*

Advisor: Duong Phong

### Amal Mattoo

*Objects of a phantom on a rational surface*

Advisor: Aise Johan de Jong

### Nicolás Ignacio Vilches Reyes

*Stability conditions and singular varieties*

Advisor: Giulia Saccà

### Yipeng Wang

*Rigidity and comparison problems in scalar curvature geometry*

Advisor: Simon Brendle

### Zongrui Yang

*Boundary interactions for models in the KPZ universality class*

Advisor: Ivan Corwin

## MIDDLE EASTERN, SOUTH ASIAN, AND AFRICAN STUDIES

### Doha Tazi Hemida

*The problem of God's sovereignty in Classical Islamic thought*

Advisor: Wael Hallaq

### Nadeem Mansour

*A new ruling class and its empires: The case of nineteenth-century Egypt*

Advisor: Timothy Mitchell

### Ali Ugurlu

*Captives of freedom: The paradoxical world of critique, political economy, and emancipation in the Ottoman age of capital*

Advisor: Timothy Mitchell

## MUSIC

### Nicola Leonard Hein

*Auto-cybernetization and cybernetic listening: Improvising machines and the philosophy of technology*

Advisor: Joseph Dubiel

### Paola Messina

*Listening for Bilad al-Shām in São Paulo: Expressions of “baladī belonging” through music and sound*

Advisor: Alessandra Ciucci

### Grant Woods

*“By right of inheritance”: Empire and identity in the first British folk revival*

Advisor: Julia Doe

## MUSIC (DMA)

### Camila Agosto

*Tuning the body: Perception in motion in Catherine Lamb's Prisma Interius V and Pauline Oliveros's*

*Primordial Lift*

Advisor: Zosha Di Castrì

### Diana Rodriguez

*The sonic architecture of Interdictor: Matter, structure, and code*

Advisor: Seth Cluett

### Unnur Evans

*Listening to the source: Nature and difference in “Kits Beach Soundwalk” and “Bismillah Meets the Creator in Springtime”*

Advisor: George Lewis

### Corie Rose Soumah

*New sonic endisms: An analysis of sound-making practices through entangled temporalities and endings*

Advisors: Seth Cluett and George Lewis

## PHILOSOPHY

### Lufie Artha

*Five-dimensionalism*  
Advisor: Achille Varzi

### Ellen Burns

*Rescuing experience from the hard problem of consciousness*  
Advisor: Akeel Bilgrami

### Qian Cao

*Appearance and reality: Plato and the psychological difficulties of inquiry*  
Advisor: Katja Vogt

### Anthony Hejduk

*The world as it is and as it commands: The structures of reality in Stoicism*  
Advisor: Katja Vogt

## PHYSICS

### Michael Aitken

*Quantifying peptide-specific immune surveillance via HLA-I in viral infection and cancer*  
Advisor: Raul Rabadan

### Valerie Hsieh

*Probing graphene heterostructures with atomic force microscopy techniques*  
Advisor: Cory Dean

### Iliia Komissarov

*Quantum geometry and localization in crystalline and disordered solids*  
Advisor: Raquel Queiroz

### Po Fung Liu

*Innate spectral preference and multisensory learning mechanisms in *D. melanogaster**  
Advisor: Rudy Behnia

### Daniel McLoughlin

*A journey across scales: Causality, symmetry, and unitarity in effective field theory*  
Advisor: Rachel Rosen

### Tuan Nguyen

*Sculpting visual cortex: How recurrent structure, modulatory signals, and development shape V1 responses*  
Advisor: Kenneth Miller

### Klaas Parmentier

*Puzzling paragons of the discrete kind*  
Advisor: Frederik Denef

### Harrison Siegel

*Gravitational wave topics: Black hole ringdown and instrumental noise*  
Advisor: Yury Levin

### Michael Holmes

*The autonomy of the oppressed: A pragmatics-first account of discursive injustice*  
Advisor: Karen Lewis

### Chuyu Tian

*The measure of goodness: The virtuous human and the citizen animal*  
Advisor: Wolfgang Mann

### Connie Wang

*Hegel on the psyche and psychic illness in the "Anthropology"*  
Advisor: Frederick Neuhauser

### Qi Sun

*From laser cooled molecules to novel quantum matter*  
Advisor: Tanya Zelevinsky

### Kristen Surrao

*Optimizing parameter inference and foreground removal techniques for cosmic microwave background data analysis*  
Advisor: James Hill

### Joshua Swann

*Transport measurements of correlated states in multilayer twisted graphene*  
Advisor: Cory Dean

### Rocco Vitalone

*Cryogenic ultrafast nanoscopy of complex materials*  
Advisor: Dmitri Basov

### Malcolm Wells

*Quantitative high-resolution HX-MS to discover protein energetic landscapes*  
Advisor: Anum Glasgow

### Zihao Xu

*Search for dark matter with the XENONnT experiment: Knowns and unknowns*  
Advisor: Elena Aprile

### Karen Yu

*Nuclei-driven jamming transitions in confluent cellular systems*  
Advisor: Laura Kaufman

### Shengjia Zhou

*Constraints on effective field theories without Lorentz invariance*  
Advisor: Alberto Nicolis

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### **Julian Gerez Amador**

*Essays on the political economy of supply-side counternarcotics*

Advisors: Sarah Daly and John Marshall

### **Manu Burson**

*The modern media playbook: Elite strategies for digital influence*

Advisor: John Marshall

### **Hayley Cohen**

*The political behavior of elites and voters in US primary elections*

Advisors: Donald Green and Yamil Velez

### **Yujing Fan**

*Party loyalty and women's representation in electoral authoritarian regimes*

Advisor: Kimuli Kasara

### **Samuel Frederick**

*The enemy is within: Elite affective polarization in American politics*

Advisor: Gregory Wawro

### **Lauren Futter**

*Essays on public goods provision and federalism*

Advisor: Michael Ting

### **Marnie Ginis**

*Production complexity as appropriation protection*

Advisor: Nikhar Gaikwad

### **Daniel Markovits**

*Strategic motivations and conflict in American democracy*

Advisor: Donald Green

## PSYCHOLOGY

### **Jacob Edwards**

*Play with the changes: Innate rules for learned vocal communication in songbirds*

Advisor: Sarah Woolley

### **Jiawen Huang**

*How prior knowledge scaffolds memory: A "kind of naturalistic" approach*

Advisor: Christopher Baldassano

### **Courtney Jimenez**

*Learning and memory contributions to social cognition and subjective connection*

Advisor: Meghan Meyer

### **Beatrice Montano**

*The politics of gender norms: Evidence from rural Tanzania*

Advisor: Donald Green

### **Lionel Ong**

*Local candidate selection in patronage democracies*

Advisor: John Marshall

### **Nicole Peisajovich**

*The puzzle of leadership in democratic theory*

Advisor: Nadia Urbinati

### **Bardia Rahmani**

*Essays on media and political persuasion in autocracies*

Advisor: Donald Green

### **Zara Riaz**

*Essays on migration and political behavior*

Advisor: John Marshall

### **Isaac Stethem**

*Planetary peoples: Historical continuity and contemporary spaces*

Advisor: Karuna Mantena

### **Ece Tekbulut**

*No exceptional man: Towards a democratic emergency paradigm*

Advisor: Nadia Urbinati

### **David Vilalta**

*Power, profits, and votes: Essays on the political economy of firm-state interdependence in the twenty-first century*

Advisor: John Marshall

### **Christian Mott**

*Punishing risk*

Advisor: Larisa Heiphetz Solomon

### **Emily Nakkawita**

*How does it fit? Basic distinctions for operationalizing regulatory fit and non-fit*

Advisor: Tory Higgins

### **Anna Vannucci**

*Neurobehavioral mechanisms of affective semantic memory development*

Advisors: Niall Bolger and Nim Tottenham

## RELIGION

### Iona Gerbakher

*The abyss of the dream: Interpretation and authority in medieval Sufism*

Advisor: Katherine Ewing

### Connor Martini

*The evidence of things not seen: Searching for extraterrestrial intelligence in an enchanted universe*

Advisor: Courtney Bender

### Mohit Kaycee

*Traces on the ground and in voices: Dalit pedagogy, performance, and place in Karnataka*

Advisor: John Hawley

## SLAVIC LANGUAGES

### Thomas Davis

*Autobiography and the mirror of archive: Iraïda Barry, Mirror Shards and the I.V. Barry Papers*

Advisor: Valentina Izmirlieva

### Yulia Kim

*Violence as device: The poetics and politics of Russophone literary culture*

Advisor: Jessica Merrill

### Max Lawton

*Forms of phenomenology in twentieth-century prose: A dialectical examination*

Advisor: Mark Lipovetsky

## SOCIOLOGY

### Elizabeth Adetiba

*Between science and the state: Xenophobic anti-Blackness in the early science of HIV/AIDS*

Advisor: Adam Reich

### Jongsun Chae

*Space in time: Three essays on the daytime experience of space by race, class, and political party*

Advisor: Thomas DiPrete

### Samuel Donahue

*Essays on identification, classification, and exclusion*

Advisor: Adam Reich

### Daria Franklin

*Field under constraint: Soviet literary journals and autonomy in Soviet literary life*

Advisor: Peter Bearman

### Terrell Frazier

*A more just city*

Advisor: Peter Bearman

### Zehra Mehdi

*The work of religion: Violence, trauma, and refusal in the lives of Muslims in Hindu India*

Advisor: Katherine Ewing

### Xiao Xiao

*The forge and the mediator: Narrative, memory, and the making of Kiyomizudera*

Advisor: Michael Como

### Uma Payne

*The genius of unhappiness: Queer literary heroism and critical self-regard*

Advisor: Mark Lipovetsky

### Ararat Sekeryan

*Russia as woman: The afterlives of émigré female bodies in Russo-Turkish space, 1919–1939*

Advisor: Valentina Izmirlieva

### Zheng Fu

*Relational power: A networked perspective on power in authoritarian China*

Advisor: Peter Bearman

### Flavien Ganter

*Operationalizing symbolic boundaries in a multidimensional world: Estimands, designs, and applications of conjoint experiments*

Advisor: Thomas DiPrete

### Katy Habr

*Precarity after crisis: The political economy of the post-Covid workplace*

Advisor: Adam Reich

### LeShae Henderson

*Controlled becomings: Papers on race, indigeneity, and life-making in prison*

Advisor: Bruce Western

### Dominic Walker

*In transition: A study of transitional school programs*

Advisor: Adam Reich

## SOCIOLOGY (CONTINUED)

### Xue Lian Wang

*Filling the hollow of ethnic identity: Emotion and the (re)production of Chineseness*

Advisor: Peter Bearman

## STATISTICS

### Navid Ardeshir

*Two problems in geometry: Structural insights into interpolating estimators in overparameterized models and advances in Gaussian entropic inequalities*

Advisor: Arian Maleki

### Ari Blau

*Reducing label dependence in animal behavior modeling: Diverse supervision strategies for improved generalization*

Advisor: Liam Paninski

### Fangyi Chen

*Nonparametric and semiparametric dynamic factor models for event history data*

Advisor: Zhiliang Ying

### Zhewen Hou

*On distribution-informed learning for dynamical systems*

Advisor: Tian Zheng

### Yian Huang

*Topics on robust and efficient statistical learning*

Advisor: Zhiliang Ying

### Ian Kinsella

*Decoupling compression and demixing: A modular penalized matrix decomposition framework for calcium and voltage imaging data*

Advisor: Liam Paninski

### Hane Lee

*Statistical methods for measuring public opinion polarization and congressional social ties*

Advisor: Michael Sobel

## THEATRE

### Adrian Guo-Silver

*Anonymous subjects: Performing anonymity across media 1890–1948*

Advisor: William Worthen

### Jehbreal Jackson

*Enfleshing the void: Capturing the Black kin-aesthetics of Haitian Vodou in George Balanchine's Agon*

Advisor: William Worthen

### Andrea Jo

*Excessive diasporas: Consumption and embodied spectatorship in contemporary Korean cultural productions*

Advisor: Hana Worthen

### Ye Tian

*Interpretable algorithms for data integration: Adaptivity, contamination, high-dimensionality, and privacy constraints*

Advisor: Zhiliang Ying

### Andres Ignacio Riveros Valdevenito

*Totally inaccessible stopping times, path-dependent volatility, and quadratically regularized optimal transport*

Advisors: Marcel Nutz and Philip Protter

### Luhuan Wu

*Advances in probabilistic machine learning: Scalable inference, conditional generation, and invariance modeling*

Advisors: David Blei and John Cunningham

### Yizi Zhang

*Learning representations under data heterogeneity: Scalable self-supervised models for generalizable neural encoding and decoding*

Advisor: Liam Paninski

### Haolin Zou

*Newton–Raphson approximate re-optimization in high dimensions: Theory and applications to machine unlearning, risk estimation, and data attribution*

Advisors: Victor de la Peña and Arian Maleki

### Eduardo Pavez Goye

*Performing motherhood: Post-dictatorship Chilean theatre (1990–2020)*

Advisor: William Worthen

### Geoffrey Lokke

*The film poem: Lyric poetry and the origins of documentary film*

Advisor: Edward Mendelson

### Ali Yalgin

*Minerals on stage: Twenty-first-century Western theatre and extractivism*

Advisor: Hana Worthen

# ADDENDUM

*Dissertations deposited after April 16, 2026*

## ANTHROPOLOGY

### **Akshay Ragupathy**

*Kabza and the spirit of commodity fetishism in Hyderabad, Telangana*

Advisor: Rosalind Morris

### **Chazelle Rhoden**

*Afro-religious animations: Spirit, space, and climate change conservation in Brazil*

Advisors: Vanessa Agard-Jones and Paige West

## ART HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

### **Rebecca Yuste-Golob**

*Building the Enlightenment: Mexico City at the end of empire*

Advisor: Barry Bergdoll

## ASTRONOMY

### **Maryum Sayeed**

*Rebels of the night sky: Studying anomalous stellar populations with spectroscopy and asteroseismology*

Advisor: Melissa Ness

## CHEMICAL PHYSICS

### **Kelsey Harrison**

*Structure-property relationships in organic materials for Li and Mg-metal batteries*

Advisor: Colin Nuckolls

## CHEMISTRY

### **Chun-Ying Huang**

*Polarization waves in two-dimensional vdW ferroelectrics NbOX<sub>2</sub>*

Advisors: Xiaoyang Zhu and Xavier Roy

## CLASSICAL STUDIES

### **Shenda Kuang**

*Reading Herodotus's Historiai phenomenologically*

Advisor: John Ma

## EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

### **Huy Le**

*Deep electromagnetic imaging of fluid distribution in sedimentary basins*

Advisors: Kerry Key and Michael Steckler

## ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

### **Rupinder Kaur Bakhshi**

*Evaluation of socio-ecological outcomes of governance and management of forest and non-forest commons*

Advisor: Ruth DeFries

### **Erich Eberhard**

*Considering the role of disturbance legacies in shaping tropical peat swamp forest responses to novel fire regimes*

Advisors: Ruth DeFries and Shahid Naeem

### **Ayanna Butler-Hooker**

*Controls on post-disturbance nitrogen losses in tropical forests*

Advisor: Duncan Menge

## ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

### **Margaret Banks**

*Burdened becomings: Black girlhood, temporal constraint, and the literary makings of something else to be*

Advisor: Farah Griffin

### **Evelyn MacPherson**

*Culture slick: The Nation, the text, and the multinational corporation*

Advisor: Jennifer Wenzel

## HISTORY

### **Roxanne Houman**

*Agents of Decolonization: NGO educators, EU regulators, the European consumer 1942–2024*

Advisor: Emmanuelle Saada

## ITALIAN

### **Jilian Pizzi**

*Jews and Judaism in the Commedia: Dante's poem within the historical context of Judeo-Christian relations*

Advisor: Teodolinda Barolini

## LATIN AMERICAN AND IBERIAN CULTURES

### **Ramón Flores Pinedo**

*Cartografías de la insularidad: Vanguardia y racialización en las Islas Canarias*

Advisor: Alberto Medina

## MUSIC (DMA)

### **Joshua Mastel**

*Composing listening: Toward a theory of mediated aurality as compositional praxis*

Advisor: Seth Cluett

## PHYSICS

### **Silvia Fernanda Cárdenas López**

*Spontaneous emergence of order via dissipation in one-dimensional reservoirs*

Advisor: Ana Asenjo García

### **Shenyang Shi**

*Search for particle dark matter with XENONnT: Weakly interacting massive particles to sub-proton mass candidates*

Advisor: Elena Aprile

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### **Heewon Yoon**

*Essays on the political economy of candidate selection*

Advisor: Andrew Nathan

## STATISTICS

### **Tianhui Cai**

*Machine learning and decision making*

Advisors: Hongseok Namkoong and David Blei

### **Seunghyun Lee**

*Learning graphical models with intractable likelihoods*

Advisors: Sumit Mukherjee and Yuqi Gu

## THEATRE

### **Alice Clapie**

*The degenerates' stage: British theatre at the fin de siècle*

Advisor: William Worthen

*View a digital version of the program here:  
[bit.ly/2026-GSAS-PhD](https://bit.ly/2026-GSAS-PhD)*



*Questions about the program should be sent to:  
[gsas-convocation@columbia.edu](mailto:gsas-convocation@columbia.edu)*